

Appl. No. 09/703,038
Reply to Office Action of May 23, 2007
Attorney Docket No. 82720

REMARKS

Claims 63 – 88 and 90 – 125 remain in the case. Claims 63 – 87 and 112 – 125 are allowed. Claims 89, 96, 108, and 110, *inter alia*, were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form and to include all intervening claims. These indications of allowable claims and patentable subject matter are acknowledged with appreciation.

In the outstanding non-final Office Action the Examiner: rejected claims 88, 101 – 106, 109, and 111 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,829,237 to Carson (hereinafter referred to as “Carson”); and, rejected claims 90, 94, and 95 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carson in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,633,564 to Steer (hereinafter referred to as “Steer”).

By this Response, Applicants amend independent claim 88 to include all features of claim 89, thereby reciting claim 89 in independent form. Accordingly, as indicated by the Examiner, this places claim 88 in condition for allowance, along with all of claims 90 – 95, claims 100 – 107, claim 109, and claim 111 dependent directly or indirectly therefrom. Claim 89 is accordingly cancelled.

Further, by this response, claim 96 is rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, as indicated by the Examiner, this places claim 96 in condition for allowance, along with all of claims 97 – 99 dependent directly or indirectly therefrom.

Further still, by this response, claim 108 is rewritten in independent form, and to include the

Appl. No. 09/703,038
Reply to Office Action of May 23, 2007
Attorney Docket No. 82720

features of intervening claim 101. Accordingly, as indicated by the Examiner, this places claim 108 in condition for allowance.

Even further, by this response, claim 110 is rewritten in independent form, and to include the features of intervening claim 109. Accordingly, as indicated by the Examiner, this places claim 110 in condition for allowance.

Finally, by this response, claim 63 is amended to correct a typographical error.

As three independent claims were originally paid for, and as six independent claims are now present in the application, a check in the amount of \$600.00 for three additional independent claims under 37 CFR 1.16(h) accompanies this response.

These amendments are made only to expedite the application to allowance. Applicants reserve the right to pursue at least claim 88 in unamended form in one or more continuing applications.

CONCLUSION

As all claims now present in the application have either been indicated as allowable by the Examiner, or depend from an allowable claim, it is respectfully requested that the present application be immediately allowed and passed to issue.

If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney if it is believed that such

Appl. No. 09/703,038
Reply to Office Action of May 23, 2007
Attorney Docket No. 82720

contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Harold L. Novick
Registration No. 26,011
Matthew J. Moffa
Registration No. 58,860
Customer No. 20529

Date: August 21, 2007
THE NATH LAW GROUP
112 South West Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Tel. 703-548-6284
Fax. 703-683-8396
Email: hnovick@novick.com
HLN/mjm